

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00956 101204Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /077 W
-----071955 102311Z /75

R 101100Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5645
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
USMISSION USNATO
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0956

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, LY, MT
SUBJECT: COMMENT ON QADHAFI'S VISIT TO MALTA: TRUE TO FORM

REF: (A) TRIPOLI A-19 (NOTAL), (B) VALLETTA 2034 (NOTAL)
(051247Z JUL 78), (C) VALLETTA 2061 (NOTAL) (071026Z JUL 78)

1. QADHAFI'S LATEST VISIT TO MALTA JULY 1-3 WAS TRUE TO FORM --
LOTS OF CARROT DANGLING BUT PROBABLY LITTLE IN THE WAY OF
ACTUAL COMMITMENTS. THE MAJOR LIBYAN GOAL IN MALTA -- THE
REMOVAL OF THE BRITISH BASES -- WILL BE REALIZED IN 1979.
LIBYA HAS ALWAYS COUPLED THIS "DEMAND" WITH A CALL FOR
MALTESE NEUTRALITY AND ECONOMIC VIABILITY, AND QADHAFI HAS
ONCE AGAIN REITERATED LIBYA'S READINESS TO INCREASE ECONOMIC
ASSISTANCE TO FORWARD THESE AIMS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00956 101204Z

2. HOWEVER, LIBYA RARELY IF EVER GIVES AID WITHOUT
STRINGS, PUBLIC DISCLAIMERS NOTWITHSTANDING. FOR OVER-
LYING QADHAFI'S PERCEPTION OF A SPECIAL MALTESE-LIBYAN
RELATIONSHIP IS HIS PERCEPTION OF MALTA AS A NEIGHBOR
ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO FINANCIAL AND, HENCE, POLITICAL
PRESSURE. LIBYA'S LONG-RANGE OBJECTIVES IN MALTA ARE

PROBABLY MORE POLITICAL THAN STRATEGIC, AND FOR THE
MOMENT AT LEAST, LIBYA WANTS TO RETAIN THE GREATEST
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL LEVERAGE OVER ITS NEIGHBOR IN ORDER
TO PRESERVE FOR ITSELF A CONSIDERABLE DEGREE OF INFLUENCE
OVER MALTESE FOREIGN (IF NOT DOMESTIC) POLICY. HENCE,
LIBYAN ASSISTANCE TO MALTA IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO
COME IN TANTALIZING DRIBBLES RATHER THAN IN ONE OR TWO
LARGE SERVINGS. IN THIS SENSE, THE ABSENCE OF ANY
POSITIVE MOVEMENT ON THE MEDIAN-LINE ISSUE UNDERSCORES
LIBYA'S CONDESCENDING ATTITUDE TOWARDS MOST OF HER
NEIGHBORS, MALTA INCLUDED, AND DEMONSTRATES ONCE AGAIN
LIBYA'S INTEREST IN FORESTALLING ANY POTENTIAL OIL INCOME
FOR MALTA WHICH MIGHT GIVE THE REPUBLIC ECONOMIC
INDEPENDENCE. THIS POLICY HAS, IN ANY EVENT, ENJOYED
ONSIDERABLE SUCCESS, AND THE LANGUAGE OF THE JOINT
COMMUNIQUE (REF B) PROVIDES A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE KIND
OF PUBLIC SADPORT LIBYA EXPECTS FROM ITS AID RECIPI-
ENTS. AT THE SAME TIME, WE WOULD CONCUR WITH VALLBWTA'S
SUSPICION (REF C) THAT QADHAF MAY HAVE AGREED TO
DISCUSS THE RENEWAL OF CONCESSIONAL PRICE ARRANGEMENTS
FOR PETROLEUM TO COUNTER WHAT IS, IN ESSENCE, LIBYAN
STONEWALLING ON THE MEDIAN LINE ISSUE.
CARLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TRIPOL00956
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780282-0737
Format: TEL
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780777/aaaacnbw.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d25c6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TRIPOLI A-19, 78 VALLETTA 2034
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2060079
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMENT ON QADHAFI'S VISIT TO MALTA: TRUE TO FORM
TAGS: PEPR, LY, MT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d25c6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014